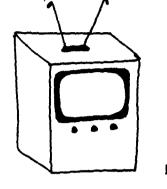
## Help the FCC improve television programming for your children.

## Make your voice heard:

ELIMINATE VIOLENT PLOGRAMMINED DUMING THE HOURS CHILDREN WATCH TV. CONCENTRATE YOUR EXPORTS IN THIS ANER ON CHILDREN' PROGRAMMINE. (CARTOONS, ETC.)



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## Make your voice heard:

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12906 NE 31st Street Vancouver WA 98682 July 26, 1995 FCC -- MM Docket 93-48 1919 M Street NW Washington, D. C. 20554

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Dear FCC:

In our local newspaper I saw that the FCC wanted input on children's programming before October 16. I would like to give a few comments from both the perspective of a father of six adopted children and as a professional educator with two degrees.

As a public high school counselor I realize how important what we see and what we hear is in developing the knowledge base, character, value system, and behavior patterns of our country's young people. Much research has gone on which proves how powerful a teaching model the combination of audio and visual media is (such as broadcast TV and movies). Much of what is on TV does not help to develop constructive attitudes and behaviors in our children I have to deal with these negative attitudes and behaviors on a daily basis during the school year. TV has had a huge impact on the educational system in America.

Up through 1994 our family probably watched about fifteen to twenty hours of TV per week. I want my children to grow up to be well informed, happy, productive members of their community, but saw so much on TV that was counterproductive to their mature growth that we have stopped watching most shows. We have cut back our television watching time to about three hours per week.

Three of the weekly shows that our family watches together are <u>Christy</u>, <u>Dr. Quinn</u>, and <u>Touched By an Angel</u>. The shows are entertaining, uplifting, positive, and have a good deal of value in what they teach about relationships. Those that have made the decisions to air these programs are to be greatly commended. We also enjoy watching educational programs on PBS when I see one that looks interesting. Thank you for asking for input and taking the time to research what people think.

Sincerely,

Jim McConnell

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Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 1919 M. St. N.W. Washington D.C. 20554 AUG 3 1995

MM Docket 93-48

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Federal Communications Commission:

I would like to comment on the state of children's television as I see it both through the eyes of a professional (school psychologist/school counselor) and through the eyes of an American citizen.

As a professional I realize that there is a great deal of violence being shown on TV, and that without parental teachings and explaination some children grow up having difficulty separating reality from make-believe. Despite the increasing argument that children are more violent as a result of violent TV programs, the truth is that they are not picking up the violence from the TV, they are picking it up from the their real home life, which is reflected on TV. The sad fact is that the Ossie-and-Harriet show of the past does not represent the majority of the homes that children are growing up in today. The problem-family syndrome shown on today's TV programs are more in line with what children are faced within their daily lives. Thus, I see children's programs as being much more reflective and real for children, and therefore much more influential and important in their lives. TV could perhaps use this to their advantage, by introducing therapeutic/educationally appropriate methods and techniques to inform youngsters as to how to address their everyday life situations. Thus, more than ever before, our children need educational and informative television to take up the slake and model appropriate behaviors, attitudes and values for the children sitting alone in front of the TV (waiting for their parents to come home from work). TV has taken the place of surrogate parenting. The working parents are no longer available, as they were in the 50's, to address the immediate needs, fights and issues that often arise between siblings, neighbors, friends, etc. But to put ones head into the sand and wish it to go back to those days is a pipe dream that will not happen. So we need to embrace the one line of communication that all children and young adults use daily to obtain their information for living, and keep it well funded for honest, true to life, accurate educational and informational programming.

In my opinion, TV has actually gotten better, it is more realistic, more factual, and more informative. Children are learning much more "good" information via the TV. Young adults, parents, etc. all have benefited from the many excellent educational programs that are available over the last few years. I have my own idea on what and how to reach more children via the TV. I see and hear what the children tell me and I know that TV needs to be well funded to continue to enrich the lives of children and young adults. Lets be sure that more than adequate funds are available for increasingly excellent informational and educational television.

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As an American citizen I want the FCC to ensure that all information is allowed full coverage. I do not want the press, the TV, the radio, etc. to be controlled at all, including through reduction of government funds. To do so would be entertaining dictatorship and eventual fascism. I am a tax payer and I am tired of corporations hiding information, and putting their greed for money and control first, before the welfare of the people. I want to know what is going on and I want an avenue that will allow me and all Americans easy access to this information. The only way to keep this is to have a FREE Press, TV, Radio, etc. that is not controlled by private businesses through financial funds. America is a strong nation because the people believe in it. But to allow big business and corporations to move without checks and balances by the people is to eventually undermine and destroy the peoples belief system and America. Blind patriotism is no patriotism at all, but rather a cancer that grows insidiously. TV, radio, etc. is the major way that people identify with what is going on in America. It is a way that they feel heard and understood. It is a way that they feel informed, and a part of America. Censor and under fund this important avenue and you will no longer have a link to the people and they will no longer feel a bond to America...

I hope I got my point across.

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Lets Keep PUBLIC TELEVISION well funded and out of the hands of private, corporate control. Its freedom and funding is too important to be played with.

Sincerely,

Denise Eslinger 10312 Elliman Road

Mantua, Ohio 44125

P.S. FYI: I am a Nationally Certified School Psychologist & a Certified School Counselor